

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Giving Child Passenger Safety a Boost:
CDPH is Awarded a \$250,000 Grant**

SACRAMENTO - Protecting children traveling on California's roads and highways, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has been awarded a \$254,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

Through CDPH's Vehicle Occupancy Safety Program (VOSP), the funding goes toward the coordination of statewide activities providing information and resources to ensure children are properly restrained in either a car seat or booster seat, based on their age. "Many parents may not realize that California's child passenger safety laws changed last January," explained CDPH Director and State Health Officer Dr. Ron Chapman. "All children up to age eight must now ride in a car seat or booster seat, in the back seat."

Studies show that children ages 4-8 and properly placed in booster seats are 45 percent less likely to sustain injuries in crashes than children restrained by belts alone. The grant will help support all 61 local health departments' Child Passenger Safety (CPS) education and training programs, as well as maintain the pool of 2,000 certified CPS technicians providing hands-on assistance with the proper installation of car seats.

For more information about the new law and to find a child passenger safety inspection station near you, go to [VOSP's](#) webpage and look under "Car Seat Basics" and "Who's Got Car Seats?" Funding for this program was provided by a grant from OTS, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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